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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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Inside

Incumbents reign supreme on Election Day

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Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

After the votes were tallied Tuesday evening at Romulus City Hall, it appears residents were wary of new proposals and new faces.

Four incumbents for local and statewide offices – including State Sen. Raymond Basham, State Rep. Hoon Yung-Hopgood, Wayne County Commissioner Ed Boike, and 34th District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green were re-elected in a landslide vote that included the City of Romulus and other communities that make up several congressional districts.

Basham, a Democrat, was re-elected to his second term as the District 8 state senator by a 3-1 margin. In Romulus, he received 6,382 votes, versus the 1,167

received by his opponent. Fred Kalsic, a Republican from Taylor.

Basham said he's honored to serve another four-year term. "I believe the people support what I do," he said.

Hopgood, a Democrat from Taylor, also beat his opponent – Republican Ben Armstrong – by a wide margin. When the votes were counted, Hopgood received 6,174 votes in Romulus, and Armstrong received 1,313. Hopgood will once again represent District 12 for a two-year term.

Both men appeared to have pulled ahead of their competitors in other communities within their district by press time.

Both Basham and Hopgood will not be able to seek office again because of term limits.

See Election, page 3



Raymond Basham



Hoon-Yung Hopgood



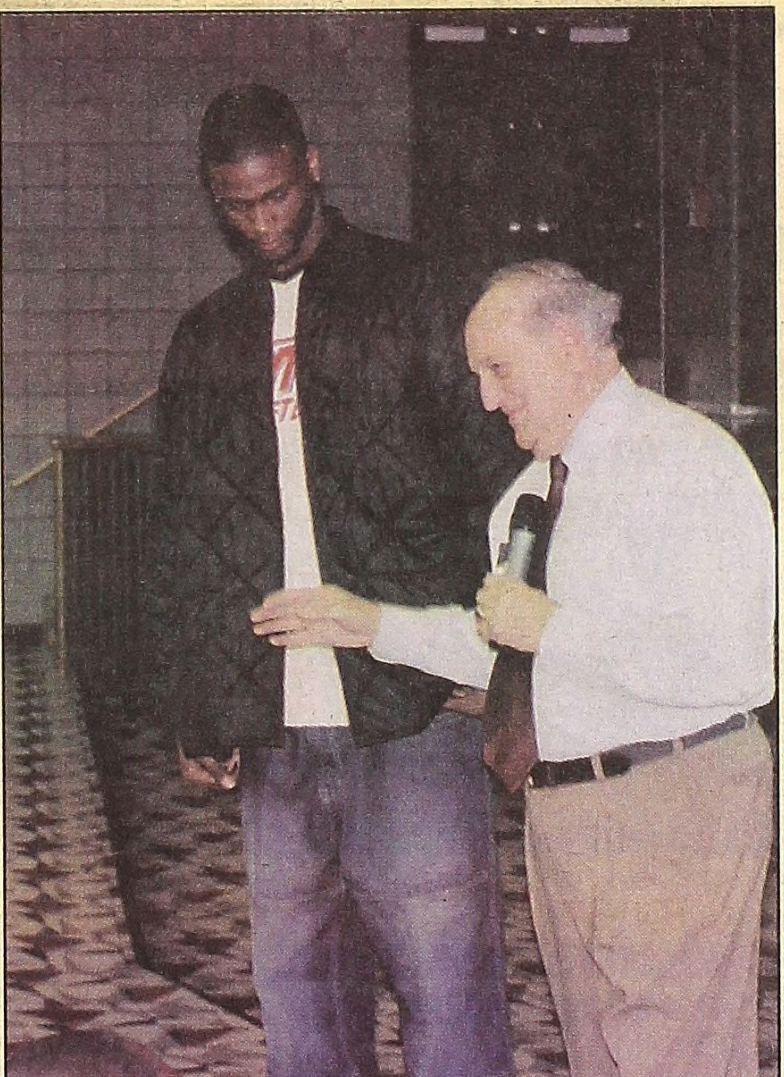
Tina Brooks



Edward Boike

Sobering words

Romulus High School students listened intently to the words of Bob Anastas, the national chairman of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) at a recent assembly. Anastas, who is from Boston, made the rounds at several local schools to talk to students about the dangers of drunk driving. He challenged students to stand up to peer pressure during his address. "You get to the party and some of your friends make some smart remarks, egg you on, and soon you have had too much to drink," he said. "Well, let me tell you that about 6,000 students don't make it home (each year)." Anastas' visit was arranged by Romulus High School Assistant Principal Doug Hoffman to as part of the Mayor's Drug Task Force "Anti-Drug Week."



Manufacturer gets \$2.6 million loan

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

A Romulus business will receive a \$2.6 million in low-cost financing to help cover a 17,000 square foot expansion of its industrial facility.

The Michigan Strategic Fund

selected two businesses – one of which is Kreher Wire Processing, Inc. – to receive funds as part of the Private Activity Bond Program, which aims to help businesses expand their operations in Michigan to create badly needed jobs.

State Sen. Ray Basham (D-

Taylor) helped secure the funding.

"Supporting the growth and expansion of these viable companies will ensure their future success and we all benefit from that," he said. "Business invest-

See Aid, page 3

Leak at well angers officials

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Romulus officials received news they had been dreading for several years when a leak was discovered at the site where two waste injection wells opened this spring.

Mayor Alan Lambert said the city was informed by investigators at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) that one of the tanks had leaked and that another was emitting vapor last week after two mandatory inspections confirmed the problems.

"We were told by the MDEQ the same day it happened," he said. "There are provisions that say they must contact the people in the area and the EPA. The good news is that the leak was caught in a trap they have set up. There doesn't appear to be any public health hazard at this time."

The wells, which began accepting liquid waste in March after a long dispute between city officials and Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS), the company that owns the tanks, have been a point of contention for many years. First introduced to

See Leak, page 3

Walk Across America

Seniors walk far enough to reach Alabama

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Members of the September Days Senior Center in Van Buren Township have walked from Belleville all the way down to Alabama—virtually, that is.

They wrapped-up their Walk Across America program recently during which 38 participants used the center exercise room to accumulate a total of 4,605 miles.

"The seniors here are active already, but it's a unique way to get the incentive going. Teams were really encouraging," said Sarah Scherdt, senior coordinator at the center.

The program allowed participants to come in any time between Aug. 1-Oct. 31 to build up walking miles through stair-steps, bikes, treadmills and elliptical machines.

Linda Combs, director of the center, said the future of senior centers is all about promoting wellness and aging.

"Every 8 seconds someone turns 60 years old, so we have to keep up with the changing needs of the people we serve," she said. "A lot of people join the center just for exercise. We're encouraging them to do more because you know what they say: 'use it or lose it.'"

"We also want to keep the thought of the Senior Olympics in their mind," said Scherdt.

The first place team walked about 970 miles, but it was Charles Hutchison who went the furthest with 628 miles. He said it took a lot of work and a long time: about 2 hours a day, six or seven times a week.

"I went about 32 miles in one day," said the 74-year-old, first place walker. "The worst part was the seat getting hard. It took a lot of

determination and time, but it feels a lot better."

Hutchison said he is used to the exercise, though. He has always walked a lot, he said, and likes to go to the gym at least two or three times each week.

Henry B. Browner Sr.—the second place walker at 585 miles—said he enjoys keeping fit and healthy.

"It was well worth the hard work and I'd do it again," said the 69-year-old. "The camaraderie and encouragement is what I liked the most: that's important."

Browner, also an avid walker, said he started his own walking club before and won numerous presidential awards for it.

"It's just something I've done for a long-time," he said.

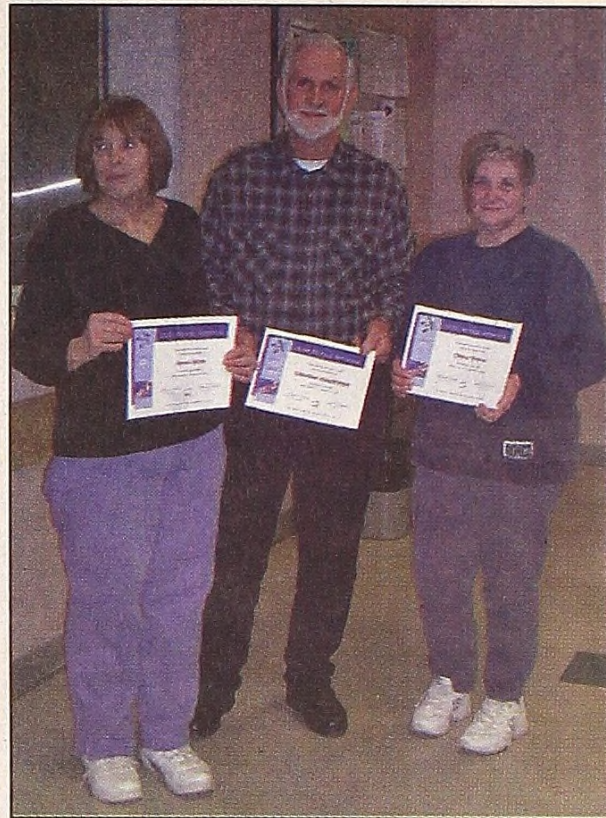
For Mildrey Delaney, 66, it was about the love of exercise. She started the program late, but did 15 miles every day to achieve her 385.75 miles.

"It feels great to win first place," Delaney said. "I didn't think we were going to do it, but fitness and weight loss was my motivation."

This isn't the last fitness promotion either. The center will also host a New Year's resolution program in January, along with a

Winter Olympics that will involve a series of brain activities like a spelling bee, crosswords and other trivia contests.

Members of the September Days Senior Center in Van Buren Township display their honors after walking more than 4,600 miles total during the Walk Across America event. Some of the top walkers included Charles Hutchison who walked 970 miles and Henry B. Browner Sr. who walked 585 miles.



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'Reading First'

Reading First literary coach Pia Chasney works with Wick Elementary students to help them catch up with their peers in the reading arena by using a board game that stresses their skills. Reading First, which was implemented by Romulus Community Schools several years ago, helps students tackle reading problems so they can excel in other subjects – all of which require reading skills if a student is to excel.

Election - Statewide proposals, issues motivated voters

FROM PAGE 1

Boike (D-Taylor) will continue his run as the second-longest serving member of the Wayne County Commissioner after he won an 18th, two-year term on the 12-member body. He earned 6,070 votes versus his opponent, David Garassi, a Republican from Taylor, who earned 1,345.

Brooks Green, a judge at the 34th District Court, edged out Belleville lawyer Thomas Dipietro by a 2-1 margin. Brooks Green received 5,142 votes in Romulus, and Dipietro received 1,148.

Romulus had no local ballot issues to decide this year, but many statewide issues drove voters into the polls at near-record levels, said City Clerk Linda Choate.

"We had 8,218 voters cast ballots, which represents about 48 percent of our electorate," she said. "We've been here all night, and this felt very much like a presidential election to us."

Romulus voters endorsed a second term for Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who voters narrowly chose in a landslide with 6,202 votes. Her competitor, Grand Rapids businessman Dick DeVos, who earned 1,804 votes. By press time, Granholm was leading the polls statewide.

Two Democrats who received broad-based support from Romulus voters did not win

statewide contests, however.

Secretary of State Terry Lynn Land – who handily beat Democratic challenger Carmella Sabaugh – only received 2,622 votes, versus Sabaugh, who received 5,102. The other candidate is Amos Williams, who challenged Attorney General Mike Cox for his seat. Cox earned 2,440 votes, versus Williams' 5,234. Williams is a former Detroit police officer, and Sabaugh is the Macomb County Clerk.

There was no Republican challenger to Rep. John Dingell, who beat Green party candidate Aimee Smith 6,714 to 243.

Ballot proposals also attracted voters to the polls. Proposal 1, which would require conservation and recreation funds to spent only for those purposes, was approved 5,464 votes to 1,872.

Romulus voters bucked statewide trend by voting no to Proposal 2, which would ban affirmative action programs in state contracts, hiring, and school admissions. By deadline Thursday night, it appeared the measure would be approved statewide. Romulus voters voted for the ban 3,077 votes, versus 4,839 who voted against the ban.

Proposal 3, which would place a ban on dove hunting in Michigan, was overwhelmingly approved by voters 5,974 to 1,760.

Proposal 4, which would prohibit the government from seizing property under Eminent

Domain laws for private use, was also approved, 5,353 to 2,305.

Voters said no to Proposal 5, which would have required mandatory school funding increases at or above the level of inflation to pay for education programs. Voters nixed the proposal 4,394 to 3,260.

The state of the economy, and the importance of the ballot issues combined with the gubernatorial race, drove several people into the polls, because all of these issues have affected Romulus residents differently than they have residents in other communities, said Patsy Ramsey, who voted at city hall Tuesday.

"I always vote, no matter what," she said. "Affirmative action, for one thing, was one of the reasons I came out. I also voted for Gov. Granholm – I think she has our best interests at heart."

"There's so many things going on with jobs and the economy that we need people up there to do the right things," she said.

Choate said that all of the totals are unofficial, and that Wayne County canvassers will hit the streets over the next few days to ratify those numbers. The results will then be certified by the Wayne County Clerk's office.

The numbers may be unofficial, but the turnout wasn't, Choate said.

"We're glad to see so many people out here," she said.

tions, including annealing, pickling, coating, and wire drawing to the automotive and construction industries, to name a few. The 17,500 square-foot expansion will accommodate new equipment and machinery needed to help meet the needs of its customer base.

Private activity bonds are issued to finance projects for manufacturers and some non-profit corporations. The

Michigan Strategic Fund acts as an intermediary between a borrowing company and lending company or bank to lessen the cost of borrowing.

Interest paid to the bond buyer is exempt from federal, state, and local taxes. Parameters for manufacturing projects include a provision that requires 95 percent of the bond proceeds be used to acquire land, building and equipment

Leaks

FROM PAGE 1

the city about 15 years ago, the city backed lawsuits to halt operations at the Citrin Road site near Interstate 94. But ultimately, the MDEQ gave the go-ahead for the company to begin accepting 400,000 tons of waste from about 25 trucks per day, according to EDS estimates.

The waste is injected into the wells, which are buried 4,500 feet below the ground surface. The technology has been deemed safe in most cases, but officials in Romulus said they are not surprised to hear there was a leak.

"I told them when they came here that they were full of it; especially when they said there would be no leaks," said Lambert.

"You can't deal with that sort of thing and not have problems," he added. "It just doesn't work that way."

The Citrin Road facility is on hiatus until the problems are solved. Douglas Wicklund, the president of Birmingham-based EDS did not return calls seeking comment.

The city is currently involved in a joint lawsuit with Wayne County and the City of Taylor as a last-ditch effort to stop EDS from accepting waste.

Romulus officials were disappointed when a lawsuit filed by Sun Oil – a company that operates a nearby facility and that objected to the proximity of the two wells to buildings – settled out of court.

At this point, the wells are believed to be a fact of life for Romulus residents, said Councilman William Crova.

"There's nothing that we (the city council) can do to stop the wells from operating now," he said. "Nobody's happy about it; I'm certainly not happy about it as a councilman or as a resident. We did everything we could to stop them for 15 years – and spent about \$1 million dollars to fight them. There's not much more that can be done."

Emergency Manager Phil Wagner addressed city council members at their regular Monday night meeting and said the city is taking measures to protect the public, and that periodic updates would be provided to residents.

One positive aspect of the leaks is that new standards could be placed on EDS, Lambert said.

"If the MDEQ is looking at what's happening there, they may be able to place tighter restrictions on them," he said.

Officials from the MDEQ did not return calls seeking comment for this story.

News in brief

Santa visits downtown

The City of Romulus will begin the holiday season on Friday, Dec. 1, when Santa will make his official arrival just in time for the annual tree-lighting.

The fun will begin at Romulus Historic Park at 5 p.m., when the Romulus Historical Commission and the Romulus Historical Society will open the museum and historic Kingsley house – both decorated for the season – to the public. The Golden Griffon Stringtet will provide entertainment in the Kingsley House and refreshments will be served in the museum.

At 6 p.m., Santa will arrive at the Historic Park, where Mayor Alan R. Lambert will present him with a "key to the city" and enlist his help to light the city tree.

Afterward, the Romulus Progressive Club will open the Progressive Hall (located at 11580 Ozga Road, near Five Points) to enjoy light refreshments while Santa hears children's wishes. The Lincoln Park Train Club will have train displays set up.

Entertainment, refreshments and gift bags to the children will be provided courtesy of the Romulus Recreation Department.

Photos with Santa (\$2 each) will be available. The remainder of the program is free to Romulus residents.

Chamber hosts bowling event

The Romulus Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the annual bowling event to raise money for year-round organization activities.

The event will take place from 8:30-11:30 Jan. 13 at Lodge Lanes, which is located south of I-94 on Belleville Road.

Tickets for the event are \$15 per person. For that amount, bowlers will get three games of bowling, pizza, door prizes, a cash bar and the chance to win a raffle.

Tickets must be purchased in advance by Jan. 3. Seats are limited to the first 160 bowlers.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 893-0694, or e-mail a representative at info@romuluschamber.org.

A portion of all proceeds will benefit the CAF 5 prescription drug program.

Aid

FROM PAGE 1

ments such as this will stimulate the local economy and ultimately bring valued jobs to our region."

Kreher Wire Processing, which is located at 34822 Goddard Road in Romulus, provides steel processing opera-

tions, including annealing, pickling, coating, and wire drawing to the automotive and construction industries, to name a few. The 17,500 square-foot expansion will accommodate new equipment and machinery needed to help meet the needs of its customer base.

Private activity bonds are issued to finance projects for manufacturers and some non-profit corporations. The Michigan Strategic Fund acts as an intermediary between a borrowing company and lending company or bank to lessen the cost of borrowing.

Interest paid to the bond buyer is exempt from federal, state, and local taxes. Parameters for manufacturing projects include a provision that requires 95 percent of the bond proceeds be used to acquire land, building and equipment

directly related to the manufacturing process.

Industrial businesses have been hard to retain in Michigan, and in Romulus. The city has given tax breaks to three businesses in the past 18 months under the states Tax Abatement Program – which allows local municipalities to provide tax incentives for manufacturing companies for up to 12 years.

Based in Melrose Park, Ill., Kreher Wire Processing has two facilities in Michigan and is a division of Kreher Steel.

This year, the fund allocated \$4.1 in bond proceeds to manufacturing projects in the downriver area. Another company – Packaging Specialties, Inc. – will receive \$1.48 million in bond dollars.

Packaging Specialties is located in Ecorse, and is a manufacturer of corrugated containers.

OPINION

Along party lines

If early voting numbers on Tuesday are any indicator, we saw see a relatively strong turnout for the 2006 general election.

That's a good thing, as one election official pointed out recently, because it shows there's a lot of interest.

There were, of course, plenty of important things for voters to weigh in on in the election this year, from funding promises to threats against innocent little birdies, property rights and plenty of local issues, too.

When that happens, when these and races for political offices become so hotly contested, there is bound to be a lot of passion involved from those who support or don't support the proposals, or those who favor one candidate over another.

More often than not, that passion turns ugly. This campaign season has been as negative as any in recent memory and it's hard to say which side was worse—if such a comparison should even be made. Democrats belittled Republicans; Republicans denigrated Democrats to the point where it was nearly necessary to switch channels and enjoy the relative peace of, say Nickelodeon or PBS. Somewhere in all this mud slinging, the true message got lost. The State of Michigan has problems and we all need to work together to solve them.

So how do we do that now?

How do we work on those problems after weeks of blaming the other side for all the ills we're facing now and will during the next few years?

It will be a wonder if the concept of bi-partisan cooperation will survive this election cycle. That is what's needed, though, true cooperation. Fixing the state of our economy is nothing that can be done by either party, it has to be done by both. It cannot be accomplished by the governor without the support of the legislature, nor vice versa.

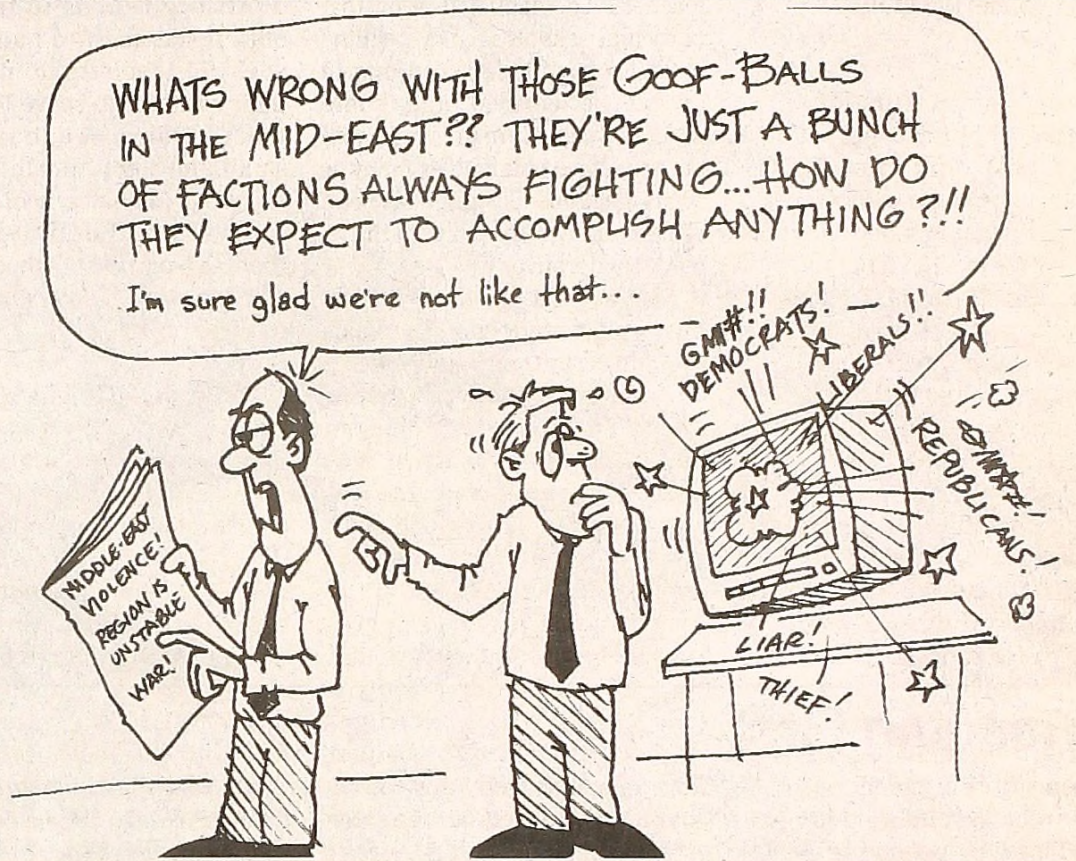
This is one if the inherent problems with the two-party system. Unless that changes, these types of election cycles won't change, either. They become increasingly less focused on the issues and solutions and more focused on blaming the other side for not getting things going in the first place. It really has to stop. We really all need to remember that no matter what our party affiliation is, we are all Michiganders: mothers, fathers, brothers, neighbors, sons and daughters.

These issues haven't been contained in the state or federal level, either. There have been plenty of more localized issues that have stirred up negative sentiment, such as the attempt to revise the charter in the City of Inkster. This has been a contentious project all along, and last minute negative campaigning won't help the matter, at all. Getting in a public fight about the issue is no way to garner support from the residents and cooperation is even more important in a place where you are more likely to run into your colleagues and your voters on a daily basis.

In the end, we just don't see a need for this. Where is the concept that everyone can disagree without being disagreeable? Where is it written that we have to lower ourselves to the basest level, unleash a certain mean-spiritedness, to get our points across?

Perhaps we remain a bit aloof of modern day campaign tactics when we continually hope that positive debate will spark more voter interest than put-downs and innuendoes. Maybe we're a bit naïve in our thought that talking about the issues and coming up with solutions will help move us forward, not merely hold back the other party. Perhaps it's human nature to feel the need to put others down in order to build ourselves up, but that is a sad thought, indeed.

Well, here we are again. Day one. The break of a new dawn. Insert your cliché here. A group of—in some cases—new legislators will take on the same problems we've faced for the past several years. It doesn't matter who's in charge. It doesn't matter who is leading the fight. All that matters is that we all need to cooperate to get things done—and that would be a lot easier if we didn't have to beat each other up along the way.



Outnumbered and overwhelmed

It's a constant fight, a constant fight
You're pushing the needle to the red...

Editor's note: This is the sixth in a series of columns designed to look at the effect drinking and driving can have on one's life. Education is the goal, along with the hope that people can learn from my mistake and avoid one of their own.

The room at the corner of Glenwood and Wayne roads in Wayne was filled with smoke and, sadly, crowded.

People of all ages and dress filled the tables, fidgeted, drank coffee and shifted ashes off of burning cigarettes. Posters and banners across the walls reminded everyone there of the need to keep coming back to the Northwest Alano Club.

It was my first Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, a requirement of the first offenders class I had been sentenced to by the 35th District Court after a drunken driving offense earlier this summer.

We've all seen these kinds of meetings depicted before, on television, in the movies, or what have you. They start up in relatively the same way: a group leader gets up, introduces himself on a first name basis, cheerfully states that he or she is an alcoholic, and things get under way. Prayers are said, lists are read about the importance of coming

back, of fighting every day.

Then discussion starts out at each table. Being a first-timer, I was directed to the first step table, where a grizzled older man I'll name Pete led the discussion. He started off with his story, then asked the person next to him: Well, what about you, Chuck?

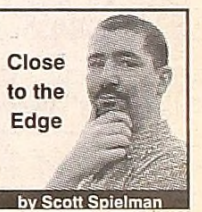
He had words of encouragement and advice for each person after they spoke, words designed to put a personal prospective on the issue of alcoholism or drug abuse, something I gradually came to realize was not necessarily about making bad choices, but of feeling like they had a choice at all.

Some don't think they do. That's what the meetings are for: to remind them, each and every one, that they do have a choice and that it might not be an easy one, but the consequences are dire.

"You're the most important person here today, Scott," they kept telling me. They were proud of how I was making the first step, the most difficult step, admitting there was a problem.

I burned with shame every time, too, and grew increasingly uncomfortable as it grew closer and closer to my turn to speak. I didn't have a problem. I was only there because it was a condition of my probation. How hollow would those words sound,

See **Sober**, page 5



It's a real sign of the times

Lately, it seems like everywhere I look there are signs that residents are looking for answers.

In the Westland neighborhood in which I grew up, for instance, politics have always been personal. If a neighbor happens to mention the election to you while you are raking the leaves, bringing in the mail, or walking the dog, you might discuss it. Otherwise, you have no idea what the guy-next-door's political leanings are, he has no clue where you stand on the issues, and that knowledge gap doesn't bother either one of you.

Forget installing signs emblazoned with your favorite candidates' names in the front yard, too. Those were few and far between. Even during the most hard fought races, if there was a sign in the yard of one of these homes, it usually meant that the homeowner just bought new windows.

This year, as the election date crept closer, I noticed something unusual. Campaign signs—seemingly overnight—began to wave over the browning lawns. It seemed like a minor aberration at first, but the signs just kept on multiplying. Pick a candidate and somewhere within the block he or she had a sign or three. My personal favorite was a sign about three streets away that touted a

candidate running for a seat that wasn't even on the ballot in Westland.

The abrupt about-face caught me off guard. There hadn't been enough turnover in the neighborhood to explain the change. Then I noticed that the campaign signs weren't alone; there were also a sudden overabundance of 'For Sale' signs as long-time residents and recent additions alike prepared to move on.

Since then, I've been paying attention. It seems to be a trend that spans beyond Westland and I can't say that I'm surprised. My theory is that the signs are, to some extent, a symbol of political awakening after a long battering by the harsh economy. Some homeowners seem to be searching for answers in elected officials and striving to find someone to help 'fix' whatever is broken with the system. Others seem to have thrown in the towel and, out of desire or necessity, plan to seek what they need elsewhere.

I guess that's just a sign of the times. It's just too bad that the sign has to say 'For Sale—Price Reduced'.



JOURNAL

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Letters

Schools participation in scholarship program doesn't make the grade

To the editor;

This is a sad situation. Our Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 3323 and its Ladies Auxiliary promote a scholarship program for high school students in grades nine-12. The Voice of Democracy Program is a national program sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the ultimate national scholarship is \$25,000. Our local high schools, John Glenn and Wayne Memorial, do not promote this program to the students; do not make it a classroom project, nor do they encourage their students to enter the contest on their own. I have even had this published on cable and in the local newspapers. I have placed flyers in and around the local area with telephone numbers for contact information. All my efforts have been to no avail.

It is no wonder that I don't vote in favor of any school taxes for our teachers. I do happen to know that parochial schools re more willing to encourage their students to enter the contest and some parochial schools in the metropolitan area have obtained as many as 90 applications. Thought has been given to sponsoring a school that is more cooperative.

The contest is simple for the high school students. The Voice of Democracy topic is selected by our national VFW organization. The student must write an essay on that topic and record it as though they are presenting it to any audience. The speech much be between 3 to 5 minutes in length. We even offer to transport our first place student to University of Detroit where than student has the opportunity to have their speech recorded professionally for further competition. The future leaders of our country do not seem to be interested in an effort that requires a

little thought and preparation.

I always wonder why our students are remiss in trying to obtain scholarship money and why the teachers do not push their students to strive for excellence. Our post entry level is small, but the ultimate rewards are great. If I had school age children, I would definitely send them to a parochial school.

Sandra Borio,
Westland

(Last week, in this space, we inadvertently printed a letter which contained misinformation and cast aspersions on the qualifications of state representative candidate Mark Abbo. In an effort to correct the misinformation contained in the letter, we are printing a response from Mr. Abbo, which clearly explains his qualifications as a Certified Public Accountant. The Journal apologizes for any confusion, misunderstanding or concern caused by the content of the letter to the editor.)

Candidate defends reputation

To the editor;

In response to letters to the editor questioning my status as a Certified Public Accountant, I must say I am surprised by the disingenuous nature and deliberate falsehoods they assert. I have been certified since 1978 and have worked for two of the largest CPA firms in the world. I currently hold certificate number 10438. When I left public practice and entered private industry, I changed my status from licensed to registered to allow me to partake in continuing education more specific and central to private industry, versus that geared to members in public practice. "Registered" is a status shared by approximately 6,000 Michigan CPAs currently employed in industry, government and education.

MCL 339.723 of the Michigan Occupation Code states each licensed or registered individual holder of a certificate as a certified

public accountant shall be known as a certified public accountant. I am currently not engaged in the practice of public accounting, nor have I alleged so in any of my literature. In fact, I have always stated that in addition to being the Northville Township Supervisor, I am employed as the Vice President of a renewable energy company. Thus I have every right to use the CPA designation to convey qualifications of which I am very proud.

Mark J. Abbo, CPA
Northville

Send us your letters

The Journal Newspapers welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters should be addressed to: The Editor, The Journal Newspapers, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan 48184.

All letters will be considered for publication and may be edited for content, space and length.

Sober

FROM PAGE 4

though, how shallow after I had heard half a dozen painful, personal stories?

The people I shared a table with fought the urge to drink every hour of every day. Society doesn't make it easy on them, either. There is alcohol advertising everywhere: bright banners

prominently displayed in party shop windows; drink specials advertised outside of bars, beer specials offered with lunches, to say nothing of television or magazine ads that glorify it with a nearly invisible tagline: please drink responsibly.

It's everywhere. Even, I realized with a sudden shock, on my head. I wore a baseball cap advertising the Frankenmuth Brewery to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. Jackass, I chided myself.

When it came to my turn, I couldn't keep quiet.

"Hi, my name is Scott and I'm not sure how to classify myself," I started. "I came here because the court ordered me to, but I'm glad I did, anyway. I think I will be more successful if I remember those around me: my son and my wife. I've always been better at helping other people than myself. I tend to make the wrong decisions for myself, but the right ones for them."

"Thanks, Scott," Pete said. "That's an important thing to remember, too. You're not in this alone."

Given the overtly religious tone in the room, the comment may have had more than one meaning. Many said they could only do what they do every day through their belief in God.

It's no wonder so many addicts turn to religion as they recover. It's not about needing a new crutch; It's a pair of eyes you don't

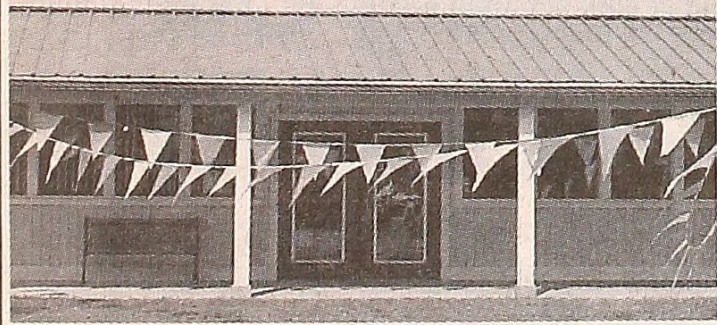
have to look into, a scowl you don't have to avoid; there's only forgiveness. The underlying theme of religion—at least to me—is that everyone screws up. What matters is what you do about it afterward.

"You're not alone." I repeated that as I walked back to the office—past one party store and four bars with their advertised special.

Maybe not, but you're certainly outnumbered.

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Science students bitten by Weather Bug

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Emily White, an eighth grade student at North Middle School in Belleville, said she likes science. She also enjoys the new WeatherBug program that helps her joy for science grow.

"I like the fact that it's informative, easy to use and you can use it outside the classroom," said White. "I haven't done that yet, but I intend too."

WeatherBug uses equipment that broadcasts current weather information on the Internet so students can check out what conditions are in Belleville, but also see live video feed across the country.

"Kids can check weather from places like London to all over the world," said Todd Stehle, an eighth grade Earth Science teacher.

Besides the aesthetics, the program also offers educational opportunities like temperature, wind speed, graphs, time lines, mapping and meteorology lessons, according to Science Teacher Mary Ivan.

"This increases awareness of both local and national weather," she said.

"Anyone can use it in the building, at home and it will also be added to our school web page," she added. "We can also utilize this in preparation for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP)

testing to review and get kids interested. Maybe they'll want to use WeatherBug at home, too, during their free time instead of just instant messaging and checking their favorite websites."

Currently, the lesson in Stehle's class is Adopt-A-City, where students record information daily on their city of choice. The final product will be a comparison.

"Weather and atmosphere is a part of eighth grade science so this gives them more concrete information," he said. "They look at the Internet, see the examples on how their area's weather is moving and see the more global picture of it."

Ivan said her class is doing a disaster journal using

WeatherBug. Students find 10 different geological disasters worldwide and research how and why they occurred, along with other severe weather reports.

North Middle School is the only school in the Van Buren Public School District to use the program so far, but the district hopes to expand to other schools if funding becomes available.

"It's an expensive project," said Ivan. "It was something the teachers and Mrs. (Diane) Tilson really wanted to do here so we used department money to purchase the program."

"Hopefully once we get moving other teachers will feel comfortable to use WeatherBug, too, in other areas beyond science," Ivan added.

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The Sundance West Channel will no longer be available on channel 166.
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The Fox Reality Channel is now available on channel 108 as part of the Digital Classic Lineup.
The Universal HD Channel will be added to channel 208.
The National Geographic HD Channel will be added to channel 199.
The A&E HD Channel will be added to channel 200.
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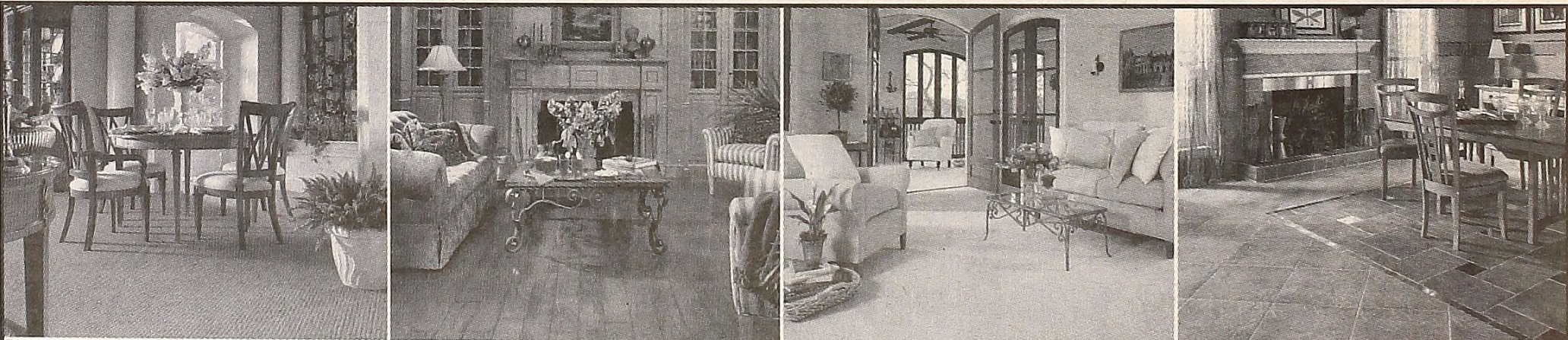


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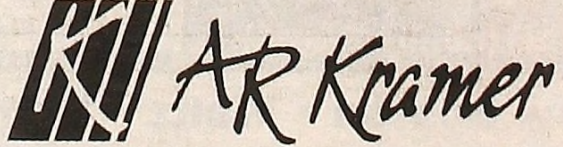
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Shop talk

Woodworking students have chance to learn custom work

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Michael Duybicki, a ninth grader at Belleville High School, would like to have a career in building trades someday.

He enjoys Intarsia—a form of woodwork with patterns and tracing—so when George Buhro, his Introduction to Woods teacher, started giving him custom orders

in the program, he felt honored.

"It feels like a special assignment," said Duybicki. "You're making something customized so you want to put all your time and effort into it to do your best for them."

Duybicki is one of many students making custom orders for people this year. That's just one of the techniques Buhro is trying to get across in the classroom.

"Anybody who has an idea of

something they want made—as long as it's not too tricky—we can do that for them," he said. "The customer has to understand that the students are just beginning and this is a learning experience."

Students in the Introduction to Woods class, which is about learning the safety and use the tools, typically don't do the custom projects. That's left to the advanced woods and pro-lab classes, Buhro

said.

Orders are done by word-of-mouth for in-house clients. Teachers, administrators and some parents have already received student-made step stools, tables, benches and other crafted work.

"Any little knick-knack project they ask that we think we can do, we do," said Buhro. "Hopefully they're developing skills to use on something worthwhile."

Most importantly, the woodwork orders are free because it's part of the student's education.

"They're not graded on the actual project because it's about instilling in them pride. They can show their family and friends and be proud of it," Buhro said. "Sometimes I do like to give them a hard-time and joke around about how the project turns out. If nails are sticking out and the wood's lined up wrong I ask them if they really want to show their family that? I like to see them make mistakes though because they learn from it."

Caleb Kennedy, a first-year woods student, said he does get a little afraid that he will mess-up a project, but he's more excited because he knows it's going for a purpose.

Buhro, who has been teaching applied technology for about nine

years at Belleville High School, said for some, it's the best way for the students to express themselves.

"They are learning how to use the tools, how to work with their hands and that's a hard, valuable experience that's hard to find now," he said.

Anyone interested in a custom-made wood project can contact Buhro at the high school.



Teacher George Buhro helps his students of the Introduction to Woods class at Belleville High School make a picnic table.

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THE SCENE

Flushed Away

Animated film appeals to all ages

Virtually every animated movie is marketed as one that will appeal to the whole family.

It doesn't always work out that way but it does in *Flushed Away*, released last week by Paramount Pictures.

It tells the story of Roddy (Hugh Jackman), a pet in an upscale British suburb, who enjoys a literally gilded cage, virtually free rein in a vast mansion, plenty of other toys to while away the time with and all that. When his family leaves for a trip, though, he realizes how lonely he is.

Enter Sid (Shane Richie) a sewer rat that somehow gets pumped up the pipes into Roddy's idyllic home. An effort to trick the obnoxious sewer rat back into the pipes misfires and Roddy finds himself 'flushed away.'

He winds up in the London underground—literally—a whole city in the sewer system with discarded items put together to resemble the legendary city above. Big Ben, London Bridge, all can be found in this sewer town—sort of.

Roddy's quest to return home finds him teaming up with a sassy she-rat named Rita (Kate Winslett), captain of the Jammy Dodger, a sort of salvage ship. Rita is trying to keep away from two thugs, Spike (Andy Serkis) and Whitey (hilariously voiced by Bill Nighy), a misplaced laboratory rat. They work for the Toad (Ian McKellan), who has a diabolical plan to flush the whole sewer city away, therefore ridding himself of the presence of all the furry vermin.

The voice talent in the film is second to none. McKellan should voice every animated villain from here on out, as effective and over the top as he was. Jackman puts in a good performance as Roddy—even his singing isn't all that bad. Winslett is terrific as the self-sufficient Rita.

The visuals are astounding, both the rare glimpses of the above ground world (referred to as 'Up Top') and the sewer land, itself. Younger viewers will get a charge out of that, as well as the fast-paced plot and silly antics of both the heroes and the villains. Most characters provide their own sound effects, too, and when they don't there are a number of singing slugs that will chip in some background music, scary noises and silly tunes. Jean Reno has a solid bit part as Le Frog, Toad's cousin, who leads an acrobatic group of frog underlings.

Parents will enjoy the witty dialogue and subtle jokes. The tone for that is set in the early minutes of the film, when Roddy is going through his wardrobe to find a suitable pair of clothes, discarding a Wolverine costume (Jackman played the snarling mutant in all three *X-men* films) in the process.

In a year that featured plenty of weaker fare for younger viewers, *Flushed Away* hits on all cylinders. It's a solid effort for children and adults, alike.



Kid's corner

I liked this movie.

It started when this fat mouse (sewer rat Sid) came up through the stink pipe into Roddy's home. Roddy tried to get him to go into the Jacuzzi but Sid knew it wasn't a Jacuzzi—it was a toilet—and Rodney was flushed down. That was funny.

My favorite part was the singing slugs "You should help poor Roddy, flushed down his own potty."

The main bad guy was Toad. He wasn't very nice, but he didn't scare me. His cousin Le Frog was pretty funny in his striped shirt and with all the other frogs and their 'Frog Fu.'

This was a good movie.



Kid's Corner

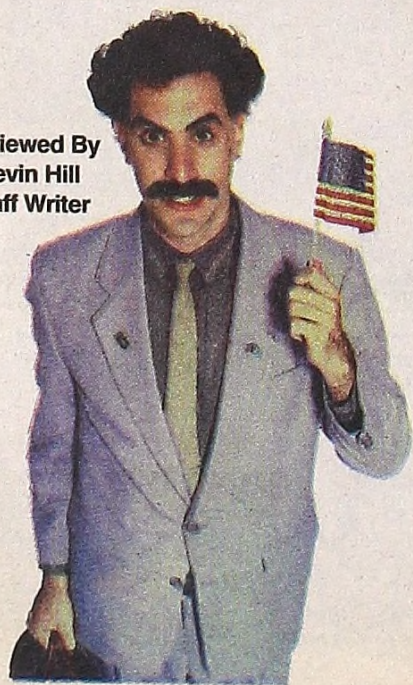
by Henry Spielman



Reviewed By
Scott Spielman
Editor

Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazkakstan

Reviewed By
Kevin Hill
Staff Writer



One might watch Borat Sagdiyev kissing, wrestling and high-fiving his way westward across the United States and say, "Thank God he didn't come across me."

Borat is the creation of British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen and was first introduced to American audiences on HBO's "Da Ali G Show." He arrived on the big screen last week, with *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*.

If you are a fan of Borat, you stand to gain little from a review of the film. You get the short version: go see it, you will not be disappointed.

If you don't know who Borat is or what the fuss is about, well, I'm not sure I can help you, either. Even if you understand the social commentary about prejudice and ignorance that permeates the film, you still may not want to endure all the toi-

let humor (literally) to witness the payoff.

Suffice to say, Borat is one of the most gratifyingly executed comedies produced in recent memory. It makes other films that tackle the same themes appear timid in comparison.

Borat is one of three characters over the years that Cohen has immersed himself in: there's also the aforementioned Ali G—a pasty-faced British wannabe-gangsta—and Bruno, a flamboyantly gay Austrian fashion critic. Cohen uses each of them to serve the same purpose: stand next to an unsuspecting person, ask them offensive and outrageous questions and document the whole mess that ensues.

In fact, what's most outrageous (and most humorous) is not what Borat says or does, but that the "regular" people he says or does things to don't realize immediately that it's all a hoax. Credit that both to

Cohen's complete devotion to his characters, an apparently dodgy explanation of what the camera is actually there for, and a careful choice of victims: mostly white Southerners and probably not HBO subscribers.

In the film, Borat sets out from his impoverished village of Kuzek with the intent to film a documentary about the United States. He gives us a brief introduction (His hobbies are ping pong, "disco dance" and "sun-bathe.") Upon arrival stateside, he tries to greet strangers on a New York City subway with a peck on the cheeks. As one might expect, his advances are returned with threats of violence that can't be related in these pages. Then, Borat's suitcase falls open to release the chicken he's naturally been carrying

See Borat, page 9

Borat

FROM PAGE 8

inside.

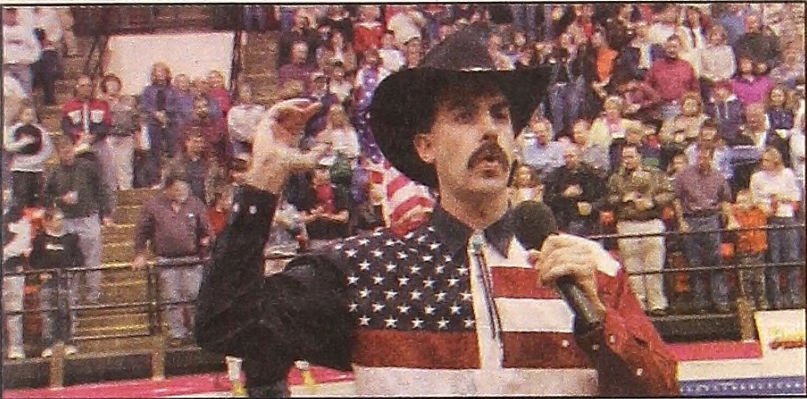
That's just the first hint of Cohen's reckless, refreshing boldness, which sustains through the film as Borat wanders into situation after situation: he stops in a seemingly dangerous neighborhood in Atlanta to ask directions from a group of African Americans. "You look like Michael Jackson, uh, 'Beat It!'" he exclaims. The men take him, rightly, for an idiot, but they laugh and school him on how to act on the streets.

Anticipation of the innocents' reaction is what really makes this movie work: What will they say when he does that? At almost every location, Cohen is alternatively submitting his victims to annoyance, shock, frustration or disgust. In his most clever situations, he's baiting them into saying something terrible. Backstage at a rodeo, an old man advises Borat to shave his mustache so he doesn't get confused with a Muslim (and, consequently, a ter-

rorist), and then gladly gives him a high-five when he learns that in Kazakhstan, homosexuals are executed more or less on the spot.

That's a fictionalized version of Kazakhstan, by the way. The real place is understandably quite upset at the way Borat represents it—as a country full of rapists and prostitutes, run by Jew-hating misogynists like him. Obliterating the reputation of a sovereign nation is an unfortunate means to an end, though. It makes Borat seem real enough to the Americans he skewers, but obscure enough to create an elaborate alternate universe in which a Kazakh reporter would want to buy a gun with the stated purpose of hunting Jews.

One hopes that everyone rolling with laughter in the theater knows Cohen isn't making fun of Jews (the actor is Jewish himself) or foreigners or whomever, but playing on people's fear and suspicions about someone who is different from them. Borat allows us to laugh at the absurdity of cultural misunderstanding, and the greater



stage of cinema gives him license to leave no holds—or slurs—barred.

Then again, Cohen does few interviews out of character, so we can only guess at his motives. I would suspect that his first goal, like most comedians, is to get a laugh, and any political message is secondary. We can spend all the time we want talking about the disturbing American underbelly Borat exposes in his "documentary," but the fact is Cohen has gotten us to laugh at 90 minutes of funny voices and poop jokes, too, and he's one of few actors to do it so brilliantly.



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'Tis the season

Northville Holiday Home Tour is next week

Trick or treaters in Northville got a surprise last week. When the doors to five homes opened, Christmas decorations were already in place. And not just any decorations, either.

While the children might not have appreciated it, parents would have been in awe of the work of both professional decorators and homeowners readying the homes for the ninth annual Northville Foundation Holiday Home Tour.

This year, the homes include one with a Hawaiian bedroom, a chocolate lover's kitchen, a black and white dining room and grape and wine decorated Christmas trees.

The homes, all privately owned, range from 3200 to 4900 square feet and the ideas the decorators have incorporated can be easily transferred into any home, according to Shari Peters, execu-

tive director of the Northville Community Foundation.

Crews from Emerald City Design have been working since Oct. 29 on one home that boasts 18 trees and Corrine Yoho from Changing Seasons in Northville is finishing the details in the must-see black and white dining room.

Rose Oddo of Flowers and Stuff, Diane Fisher of Dynamic Décor and designers from Brooklane Design are completing other homes on the tour this year.

"People can really get an idea of what is new and current, and new and creative things to do with the decorations they already have for the holidays," Peters said. "One of the homes has a four story dollhouse, and it is decorated inside and out for the holidays, too."

"This event is one of our major fundraisers and one of our most

popular," Peters said. "It helps fund the community endowments including the anti-smoking programs in the schools, the senior citizen gift baskets, the scholarship fund and many other youth and senior needs in the community. It is for several very good causes."

Peters noted that the decorators donate their time and many of the decorations to help support the foundation and the causes it funds.

The home tour will take place from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 17 and 18. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$22 at the door and are available in Northville at Gardenviews, Changing Seasons, Community Financial, Main Street Bank, the Northville Chamber of Commerce and the foundation office which can take phone charges at (248) 374-0200.



Designer Rose Oddo of Flowers and Stuff puts the finishing touches on a holiday arrangement for the dining room of one of the homes featured on the ninth annual Northville Foundation Holiday Home Tour. The tour is next Friday and Saturday, Nov. 17 and 18. For ticket information, phone (248) 374-0200.



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SPORTS

Canton, Inkster win district championships



Canton's Nick Moores scored on an eight-yard jaunt to help his Chiefs to a 14-10 victory over South Lyon at home on Friday and to retain the district crown.

Canton escapes South Lyon, 14-10

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Canton's perfect flight nearly came to an end Friday night.

That was until Deshon McClendon and Chris Bogdanski rose from the ashes that Canton's season almost became and saved the day.

A visiting South Lyon offense, trailing by four points with less than two minutes to go, trudged down field on the legs of junior Ian McGee. He broke free at Canton's 15-yard line before the two seniors delivered a powerful one-two hit that sent the ball to the turf. McClendon recovered for Canton.

"(McGee) broke to the outside and (Bogdanski) contained him and went low on him and I went high," McClendon said. "When I hit I felt the ball go out and I knew I had to get it so I just jumped on it as fast as I could."

From there the Chiefs hung on for a 14-10 victory that earned them the district championship crown.

Canton for once showed signs of weakness. They fumbled three times—the first two were on the team's first two possessions. The first was while in scoring position at the Lions' 17 and the other on South Lyon's 44.

Credit should go to the Lions who

found ways to move the ball against one of the toughest defenses in the state. With five seconds left in the first half, junior Tyler Hockey nailed a 20-yard field goal to cut Canton's lead, 7-3. Then, with 5:47 left in the third, Arik Habay ran it in from seven yards out to give South Lyon a 10-7 lead.

For the most part it was like watching Canton play itself in a mirror. South Lyon made third and fourth-down conversions—just like Canton. The Lions moved the ball on the ground while limiting the opponent's production—just like the Chiefs. Both teams had strong running backs and athletic quarterbacks.

"It really was," agreed Canton Coach Tim Baechler. "It's like a grueling third and fourth and they make a first down; fourth and four and they get the first down. That's probably how they felt watching us. It was very frustrating to do that, but we finally got the one turnover."

"We killed ourselves with drive-stopping fumbles," he added. "It made it nerve racking because they were just making long possessive possessions. It made it feel like once we got the ball back we had better make sure we make something of it—it was a scary situation."

Despite the mistakes Canton displayed a certain resilience not common to most high school football teams—even to Canton teams of past. The Chiefs proved that even when down they shouldn't be counted out.

Canton's ground game earned a tough 221 rushing yards but it was Canton's rare passing game that came up huge. Senior quarterback Steve Paye was a perfect 4-for-4 for 83 yards and a score.

He nailed William Turner for a 17-yarder to get the Chiefs on the board, 7-0 with 9:25 left in the second.

Then, trailing 10-7 on a third-and-seven play, he hit Nick Moores for a 37-yard gain and followed up with a 13 yard toss to McClendon. The drive was capped off with an eight-yard jaunt from Moores with 46 seconds left in the third—the eventual game winner.

See **Chiefs**, page 13

Vikings thwart Foley, 33-13

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The French may have settled in Michigan first but it's the Vikings that are conquering the state in 2006.

The Inkster Vikings defeated Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 32-13, at home on Saturday to capture the Division 6 district football crown and to send them in to the regional finale against Olivet at 1 p.m. at home on Saturday.

Inkster struggled early against the Ventures on Saturday but Head Coach Greg Carter and crew found Foley's weakness and turned things around in the second half for the victory.

The contest was a hard-nosed, tough-yardage plight for both teams reminding Carter of his days coaching in the catholic league.

"With how physical the game was and how well prepared the other team was really takes me back and reminds me of the old days," he said. "I don't think we played necessarily well, but that was because of Bishop Foley. They are a good team and took a lot of things away from us. They were real physical and did a lot of stunting and penetrating. Our kids had to hang in there until we found something that worked and that wasn't until the second half."

Bishop Foley Coach Paul Stanton mixed up his defense in an attempt to stump Inkster's high-powered offense.

"After watching (Inkster play) Clawson we were worried about a lot of things, because they do so many things well," he said. "They run the ball and they pass the ball. So we just basically tried an umbrella and force them to throw underneath and if that didn't work we were going to send two linebackers, our outside linebackers, and that's basically what we did all day. There were times it worked fairly well and times where it didn't."

The strategy worked the first half. The Ventures remained close, 12-7, at the half.

Senior running back Tim Hogue opened the scoring with a four-yard rushing touchdown. The play capped off the Vikings' 11-play second possession with seven seconds left in the first quarter.

Then junior quarterback Aaron

Shavers hit junior wide out Derrick Coker for a 27 yards score, making it a 12-0 game.

Bishop Foley answered with a 10-play scoring drive, ending with a 18-yard touchdown pass from Christopher Sinagoga to Clifton Powell. Paul Spann hit the point-after to make it 12-7 with 15 seconds left in the half.

The second half was another story.

On the Ventures' opening possession, a tipped pass landed in the hands of Inkster junior safety Josh Howard.

Hogue busted loose for a 21-yard run to Foley's 19. Coker gained 12 on a reverse to the 4. Then, three plays later, senior Anre' Goree plunged in from the one. Shavers threw a strike to Coker for the two-point conversion, making it a 20-7 ball game.

"Any defensive stop we get is key because they have a good offense and a great receiver and have good strong backs," Carter said of the key turnover. "They're a good team and well-coached so any time you get a turnover against a team like that to stop the momentum is what we're looking for."

Inkster capitalized on its next possession, too, after Goree intercepted another Foley pass.

On second-and-four Shavers avoided tacklers in the backfield and scampered 18 yards for a score with 3:19 left in the third.

"Any game that we have lost has been because of turnovers and mistakes," Stanton said. "That's been our Achilles' heel all year. Against a good team like this you can't do that. They just have too much firepower and if you make a mistake they make you pay for it."

Bishop Foley got things going mistake-free on their next drive, though. Sinagoga converted on a fourth-and-seven play with a 20-yard toss to John Harris nine seconds into the fourth frame. The two point conversion failed to make it, 26-13.

Hogue capped off the scoring with a one-yard push at about the 8:00 mark of the fourth. He finished with 136 yards on 22 carries. Shavers was 7-of-13 for 149 yards. Coker caught four balls for 88 yards.

"I'm really impressed with their team,"

See **Vikes**, page 13

Canton's season at a glance

- ☒ Ann Arbor Huron
- ☒ John Glenn
- ☒ Plymouth
- ☒ Western
- ☒ Franklin
- ☒ Wayne
- ☒ Northville
- ☒ Central
- ☒ Salem
- ☒ Stevenson
- ☒ South Lyon

- ☐ Saline
- ☐ State Semi Final
- ☐ State Final



Inkster's defense contained visiting Bishop Foley's offense to win its second straight district championship on Saturday. Above, the defense gangs up on Foley's quarterback, Christopher Singoga.

SPORTS



Midfielder Ryan Mack (11) defends against a Baltimore attacker in Saturday's 8-6 victory—the team's first home and season game. Photo by Ken Garner

Ignition wins inaugural opener

After two years in the making, the Detroit Ignition finally kicked off its inaugural season Saturday—and it was everything it was hyped to be—fast, exciting and fun.

In front of a sold out crowd at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township, the Ignition raced to an 8-6 victory against the defending Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL) champions the Baltimore Blast.

Detroit opened the scoring with the first goal in team history off the head of Hewerton Moreira at 5:57 of the opening frame, giving the Ignition the 1-0 advantage. The Ignition stretched their lead to 4-0 with a power play goal from Miodrag Djerisilo at 12:23 to close out the first quarter.

Detroit scored the only goal of the second quarter with an unassisted goal from forward Jamar Beasley. The Ignition took a 6-0 advantage into the half.

Baltimore responded in the third frame with a power play goal from forward Giuliano Celezna, cutting the Ignition lead down to 6-2 at 8:55. Then Carlos Garcia narrowed the gap more at 9:19, making it a 6-4 game at the end of the third.

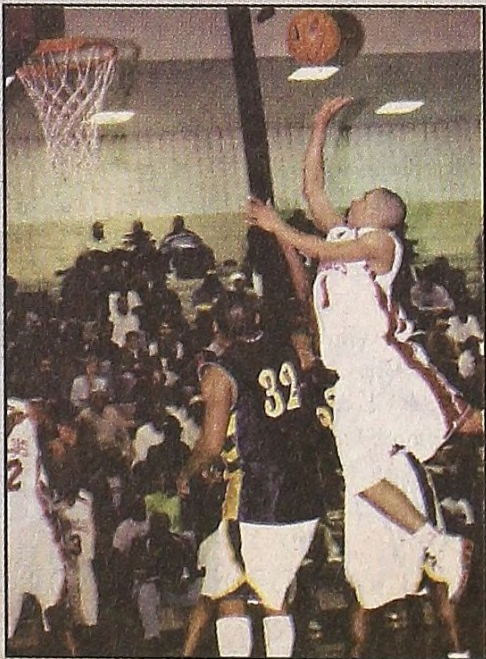
Baltimore tied the contest 6-6 at the 9:07 mark of the final frame on restart goal registered by Celezna.

The Ignition closed the door late with an unassisted restart goal off the foot of veteran Carlos "Chile" Farias at the 14:35 mark, giving the club the 8-6 win in their first game in team history.



Iowa bound

Romulus junior point guard Dominique Buckley verbally committed to Iowa State University last Wednesday. The 6-foot-2 190-pounder has excellent vision on the court and is a prolific passer with a great shot. "It's huge," said Romulus Coach Nate Oats. "He'll be playing in the Big 12 and that's a good opportunity for him. He deserves it." Xavier, Illinois, Drake, Penn State, Miami (FL) and Florida State were also options for Buckley.



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SPORTS

Lady Rocks win tournament opener

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

There wasn't anything scary at Salem High School on Halloween night, but the Lady Rocks that got the treat over cross-campus rival Plymouth with a 44-32 victory.

The first game of the Western Lakes tournament wasn't all sweet for Salem, though.

The Lady Rocks found themselves trailing by one at the end of the first quarter and by as many as four in the second. That was until junior point guard Alaya Mitchell knocked down a triple at the buzzer to make it a one-point game, 19-18, in favor of Plymouth.

The shot, however, steered the momentum in favor of Salem.

After the break the Lady Rocks offered a 16-point third quarter to overcome the first-half deficit. They scored the first four points to take a three-point lead and never looked back.

"That put us back in the hunt," said Salem Coach Fred Thomann of Mitchell's buzzer-beater to end the first half. "We weren't down four, trying to dig back in with them starting the second half with the ball."

Salem changed its defensive assignments around at the half, which stymied Plymouth's quick offense. Salem held the Lady Wildcats to three points in the third quarter.

"I thought we became less aggressive in the second half," said Plymouth Coach Richelle Reilly. "I thought that one of the things that we had to do to be successful against Salem was to limit turnovers that led to transitions or easy scoring opportunities. We thought that was the best strategy to make the game competitive and we did that in the first half."

Taylor Langham bagged the best performance of the game with a 20-point showing for Salem. She also had six rebounds in the effort.

"For the past eight games (Langham) has been absolutely a great player," Thomann said. "She goes to the rim, she finishes, she shoots it and she's playing very good defense. She's been outstand-



Plymouth senior Valerie Klemmer tries to get by Salem senior Teresa Coppiellie in last week's Western Lakes tournament opener at Salem. The Lady Rocks had a tremendous third quarter to win the game, 44-32.

ing the last four games." Mitchell added nine.

Sophomore Kelsi Robinson led Plymouth with 13 and freshman Stacey Klonowski had 11.

Plymouth lost to John Glenn on Thursday.

Kiaya Montague scored 13 points for the Lady Rockets. Klonowski knocked down 15 for Plymouth.

Salem defeated visiting Livonia Franklin, 38-30, in the tournament semi final on Thursday night.

Langham led the team again with 16—eight in the first quarter. Senior Lauren Kurtz rebounded 11 balls for the team.

The Lady Rocks faced the Lady Chiefs of Canton—both teams are undefeated (12-0) in league play this season—for the Tournament Championship at Livonia Churchill on Wednesday, Nov. 8. Results were unavailable at press time.

Salem beat a visiting Canton in a crossover match-up way back on Sept. 14.

This is Vikings' second straight district championship in Carter's two years as head coach.

"It feels good," he said. "We want to take it a few steps further. We didn't really play to the best of our ability last year in the regional final. We want another chance at it."

"I tell the guys at playoff time that we don't have to be perfect, we just have to make a few more plays than the other team when it gets to the playoffs," he said. "That kind of takes the edge off; you don't play scared; you don't play tight that way. Luckily we just made a couple more plays than those guys did."

Moore led the ground attack with 96 yards. McClendon added 80, including a 28-yard breakaway.

Canton (11-0) will host Saline (9-2) at 7 p.m. on Friday for the Division 1, Region 2 championship.

Vikes

FROM PAGE 11

Carter said. "I don't know what class they are but I hope some of them graduate if we're the same class."

Chiefs

FROM PAGE 11

"The passing game was huge," Baechler said. "Being on offense we do it and, by God, we practice it. But whether or not we make it or not during the game is another thing. Tonight they did make it. They made some big plays through the air. Paye is a stud."

Baechler, even when down, kept the game and kids under control.

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SPORTS

Belleville beats Romulus, wins 15th straight

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Belleville Lady Tigers proved that patience pays off.

They came out flat against host Romulus on Thursday night, missing shots they would normally make and not snatching rebounds that they would normally fight for.

They waited. Then they waited some more, and after trailing in the first half, came out in the second and got things rolling—all the way to a 60-52 victory.

"The girls hung in there and played really hard in the second half and just played defense," said Belleville Coach Kevin Edwards. "Our shots wouldn't fall in the first half so I told them at half time to just keep playing defense and we'll see what happens."

Romulus played a tough game from sounding buzzer to the end. The Lady Eagles were short a key component, though. Head Coach Candice Finley was out sick but assistant coach Ryann Kilgore did a great job at the reins in her absence.

The Lady Eagles battled Belleville to an 11-11 tie in the first eight minutes of play.

Then the Lady Eagles scored the first six points in the second frame. Alyssa Long had two put-backs from under the rim—split by a short jumper by teammate Erika Wasson—and then a third

to put Romulus up 19-13. Belleville got the points back when it went 6-for-6 in a row from the charity stripe to knot the game at 19.

The momentum went back and forth for the remaining 3:49 until Wasson nailed a shot just before the half ended for a 25-23 Romulus advantage.

Belleville dominated the third quarter. Senior guards Danica Holmes and Taylor Manley scored all 14 of the team's points in the first six minutes of play. They caused havoc on Romulus, forcing turnovers and converting easy points. In that same span the Lady Eagles only hit two free throws—one from Long and the other from Wasson.

Belleville led 37-33 at the end of the third.

A four-point gap would be the closest the Lady Eagles would get through the fourth, as Belleville hung on.

"We played them better this time than we did the first time," Kilgore said. "Our defense let up a little bit in the second half. I think we started to try too hard and we didn't do the little things like boxing out when it came down to it."

"They started to get second and third chances at the basket and we couldn't afford. They're a good team. It's bad enough to try and make them miss the first time let alone two or three times

in the same possession."

Manley led all scorers with 25. Holmes added 22 and Kendall Acho, a guard that can play post and handle the ball well, added eight.

Acho did a good job containing Wasson, who scored 13 but only one in the third quarter. "Acho gets the hardest assignment every day," Edwards said. "I try to move her around and tonight I gave her a little bit of a break but told her that she had to go back. She plays hard."

Long led Romulus with 18 points.

There was another battle going on during the game, too—a battle between student and teacher.

Kilgore played for Edwards nine years ago and went to the quarterfinals with her.

"That young lady did a great job," Edwards said of his former player. "She was probably in there telling her team some of the things I'm telling my team, which is smart—she's been there."

The two teams could face each other again in the district playoffs at Romulus starting the week of Nov. 13.

Both teams finish up their regular seasons this week. Belleville hosts and Monroe (Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.). Romulus finished up on the road against Lincoln Park (Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.).



Belleville stepped up its defense to move past Romulus, 60-52, at home on Thursday.

Across the board

Northville lost its Western Lakes tournament opener, 52-35 against Walled Lake Central last Tuesday. Jessica Boerger scored 15 for the Lady 'Stangs. Sarah Stern added 13. Chelsea Atzinger led Northville with 13 points in the team's 42-36 victory against Walled Lake Northern on Thursday. Allison Holmes added 11 and Stern nine.

Wayne lost to Livonia Stevenson, 54-36 on Tuesday in the tournament opener. Nastassia Goines scored 10 for the Lady Zebras. Wayne also lost to Walled Lake Western, 59-36, on Thursday. Trenia Barbee led with 15.

John Glenn fell to Livonia Franklin, 65-55, on Tuesday. Kiaya Montague scored 13 for Glenn. The Lady Rockets bounced back with a 54-51 victory over Plymouth on Thursday. Montague led the team again with 13. Stacey Klonowski scored 15 for the Wildcats.

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1. Obituaries

CASSEM-BODDEN, Uetta Veloise, 66, of Belize City, Belize, died September 28, 2006. She leaves her husband, Hubert, 3 children, Gladys Pearson, Fulani and Nicole, 4 stepchildren, Warren Jr., Sohonnne, Selwyn and Germaine, grandchild, Rickey Shuler: 9 step-grandchildren, Mallory, Shenika, Selwyn Jr., Joslyn, Susan, Biciara, Lila, Artina, Blake, Sean, Henry III and Ariana, 3 great-grandchildren, Fabrice, Jada and Mercedes: 3 step-great-grandchildren, Xavier, Symphony and Jafari, 4 brothers, John, Wolrick Jr., Gregory and Errol, 7 sisters, Cordelia Lamb, Yolanda Hollis, Maryann Arriola, Verna Frazier, Yvonne Lamb, Ava Martinez and Brenda, cousins, Marie Richards, Marion Miller, Enell Kelly, Grace Bowman, Cherry Morter, Marie Christie and Ruth Robinson, her brother and sister-in-law. Services were held at Second Grace United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue officiated. Interment was at United Memorial Gardens. Arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home and Son.

CALLOWAY, Pauline Inez, 63, of Detroit, died October 9, 2006. She leaves her husband, Charles; son, Ivan; 3 grandchildren, Pauline, Terron and Jazmine, one great-grandchild, Navaeh, 4 sisters, Madeline, Linda, Wanda and Denise, one brother, Jerome, 2 sisters-in-law, Magdalene Price and Martha Calloway, 2 brothers-in-law, Daniel and Ray, 2 aunts, Lillian and Anne. After 38 years she retired from AT&T in 2005. Services were held at The Penn Funeral Home, and were officiated by the Prophet Curtis Burk. Interment was at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery.

DAVIS, Steven Ray, 62, of Inkster, died August 24, 2006. He leaves his wife, Caroline Davis, 3 children, Jerome, Ronnie and Brian Davis, 3 sisters, Della, Naomi and Martha, 5 brothers, Michael, Willie, Ned Jr., Moses and Leslie. Services were held at Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church, with Rev. Dr. John E. Duckworth officiating. Interment was at Metropolitan Memorial Park. Arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home and Son.

DOHANEY, Andrew, age 86, of Romulus, died November 1, 2006. Beloved husband of Lottie. Loving father of Andrew M. and Donald Dohaney. Dear grandfather of Andrew M.

Dohaney, Jr. Dearest brother of George Dohaney. He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and two brothers. Mr. Dohaney was a veteran of World War II. Funeral services were held at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Township, (734) 783-2646. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park.

STORY, Joseph Patrice "Jay", 42, died October 11, 2006. He leaves 4 sisters, Fatima, Amina Bell, Jemina Howard and Judith, 2 brothers, Norris and Nathan, 6 nephews, Malcom, Matthew, Franklin Howard, Joshua and Christopher Bell, one niece, Raechel Waddy, 2 great-nieces, Maya and Jadiyn, 2 great nephews, Malik and Jordan, 5 aunts, Marjorie Love, Bernice Russell, Gertrude Stewart, Jannie and Elvera Story, one uncle, Frank Fisher. Services were held at the Penn Funeral Home with Rev. Kenneth Howard officiating. Interment was at Sunset Hills Memorial Park.

WELCH, Charles A., age 71, died October 30, 2006. Dear dad of Terry (Tony) Coppola. Dearest grandfather of Joe and Kelley. Loving brother of Hoover. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services were held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Interment was at Glenwood Cemetery.

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87. Rooms For Rent

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Patience, patients

New website allows patients to share medical experiences, advice

Kevin Hill
Staff Writer

Scott Ryan thought he was as healthy as anyone he knew. He was 29. He'd never been very sick. He had never even been to a hospital.

Then, in 2004, an accident while moving into his house prompted a trip to the emergency room, where an MRI scan found a much deeper problem. He had a large brain tumor called acoustic neuroma, which affects just one in 100,000 people.

It became clear Ryan would need surgery to remove the tumor. It would be dangerous and would have lingering effects from which he might never recover. His doctors were able to give him a wealth of medical information: the tumor was benign, but growing near his inner ear, dangerously affecting brain functions, balance and hearing. Still, he didn't know anybody who had been through the anxiety of being diagnosed with such a condition or who had gone through brain surgery.

"I felt the need to talk to someone about it," said Ryan, a Canton resident. "I immediately turned to the web to see what kind of information I could find. For my specific type of tumor there was nothing at all. Before my first surgery I couldn't find anybody."

He ended up having two surgeries to remove most of the tumor. His wife and family helped him through the recovery process, but after his second surgery last spring, he thought there could be a better way of networking patients together.

A visit to the website MySpace.com sparked an idea, and while he recovered this summer he and a friend developed Patient-Network.com, a social networking site geared specifically toward those anticipating or recovering from serious health issues.

"I've always dabbled in web design and things like that," he said. "I had months off after my surgery and couldn't really do much (else)."

The free website launched in August and has grown to 100 members through word of mouth. Members can create their own profiles, keep blogs about their experiences, post pictures and form networks of "friends," similar to MySpace.

Ryan said he wants to make his website the largest patient site in the world. It makes sense: the Internet can go beyond traditional, local support groups, he said. Patients who are housebound can share their stories and get moral support from across the nation. There's also the additional benefit of having a larger pool of knowledge. Through the site, Ryan said he's met at least five other people who have or have had the same rare tumor he did.



Scott Ryan

At its simplest, Ryan said, Patient-Network.com is a place to hang out. No medical advice is shared—Ryan said that's best left to the experts, and it's just not the goal of the network.

"It's more like, 'I'm having brain surgery. I know you've had it what did you do to recover?'" said Ryan.

Ryan has his own blog on the site, where he posts under the name MSUSCOTTIE and continues to recount his two-year ordeal and detail his recovery. He has balance problems, he's lost all hearing in his left ear and has no feeling on the left side of his face. A small piece of the tumor still remains, because removing it would have paralyzed his face completely. He has to undergo MRI scans every six months to make sure it does not grow.

Still, on his blog, he shares his hopes with his new friends.

"My face was twitching on 9/8!" he posted recently. "Does that mean the nerve is regenerating? Might I actually be able to feel my face again someday?"

For more information, visit www.patient-network.com.

Belleville leaf collection continues

The City of Belleville leaf collection program, which has already started, will continue until December.

The program is divided into two service areas to make the process more convenient and efficient. City crews will pick up leaves in each area on alternating weeks according to the schedule.

The collection for the weeks of Nov. 13 and Nov. 27 will include: Huron River Drive, Angola Street, Robbe Avenue, Madelon Street, Roland Street, Bedell Street, Clarence Street, Greylock Street, North and South Biggs, North and South Edgemont, Wexford Street, Potter Street, Henry Street and East and West Wabash.

The collections during the weeks of Nov. 20 and Dec. 4 will include: the Harbour Point subdivision, North and South Liberty Street, First Street, Second Street, Third Street, Fourth Street, Fifth

Street, Church Street, Charles Street, Brain Edison, High Street, East and West Columbia, Main Street, Roy's Street, Savage Road, South Street, Sumpter Road and the Victoria Commons subdivision.

Piles of leaves—without twigs and yard waste—should be placed between the sidewalk and curb, not in the road. Leaves will be left uncollected if they can't be accessed because of parked cars. Twigs and other yard waste may be placed in paper bags or yard waste containers for the regular Friday refuse collection through Nov. 25.

Only leaves, grass clippings and garden waste may be placed for leaf collection between the sidewalk and curb. If there are any twigs, sticks, paper, rocks, trash or garbage of any kind, the city will not be able to pick up the pile and residents will be responsible for the removal of the material.

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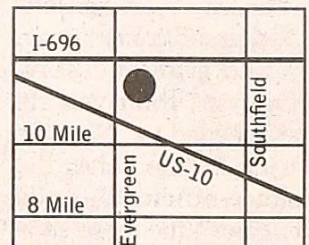
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